

Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report



a quarterly publication of the
Transportation and Marketing Programs/Transportation Services Division
www.ams.usda.gov/AgTransportation

Latest Developments

- **U.S. to Revisit Restrictions on Access of Mexican Trucks.** President Obama told the U.S. Trade Representative Office to work with Congress, the Department of Transportation, the State Department, and Mexican Officials to come up with legislation to create a "new trucking project that will meet the legitimate concerns" of Congress and U.S. commitments under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) ([Washington Times](#)). The access of Mexican trucks to the United States is one of the major trade disputes between the United States and Mexico. The Mexican government objects the U.S. failure to fully allow Mexican trucks to have access to U.S. highways under the terms of the NAFTA pact ([U.S. State Department](#)).
- **Mexico Imposes Tariffs to U.S. Imports.** Effective March 18, 2009, Mexico imposed 10-45 percent tariffs to 90 U.S. industrial and agricultural products such as Christmas trees, onions, pet food, cherries, potatoes, fruit and vegetable juices, soy sauce, wine, mineral water, shampoos, and coffee makers, with an estimated export value of \$2.4 billion. This came after the U.S. banned Mexican trucks from U.S. roads ([Reuters](#)). Fresh grapes face the highest tariff of 45 percent. These import duties exclude rice, corn, wheat, sorghum, meats, dairy and seafood products ([Diario Oficial de la Federacion, pages 49-51](#)).

Grains and Soybeans

- **Total Landed Cost.** During 2008, it cost more to ship U.S. corn, soybeans, and wheat to Guadalajara, Mexico, by sea than overland by truck or rail due to improvements in rail efficiencies and relatively high ocean rates during the first three quarters of the year. The average total transportation cost of shipping a metric ton of corn or soybeans from Illinois to Guadalajara by sea was \$100, but was only \$84 by land. Transportation as a percentage of the total landed cost averaged about 33 percent for corn, 18 percent for soybeans and 25 percent for wheat. Total landed cost is the farm value plus transportation cost excluding handling costs. U.S. agricultural exports to Mexico reached \$16 billion in 2008, 26 percent higher than a year earlier. U.S. bulk commodities comprised 42 percent of total agricultural exports to Mexico, with a value of \$6.7 billion—46 percent more than 2007. Corn and wheat exports increased in both volume and value. In contrast, the volume of soybean exports declined 3 percent, but the value increased about 54 percent to \$1.7 billion, mostly due to high farm prices.
- **Rail: Grain Car Loadings to Mexico Up in 2008, Despite Natural and Man-Made Disasters.** In 2008, grain car loadings to Mexico reported by the Association of American Railroads were 15 percent above the 2007 level, at 65,403 cars. Over the year, tariff rates to the selected destinations rose across all commodities, with Sorghum increasing the most at 3.6 percent, followed by corn, wheat, and soybeans rates (2.4, 1.3, and 0.1 percent respectively). Fuel surcharge rates to the selected destinations also increased across all commodities, but by a greater amount. Soybeans and Sorghum per car surcharge rates rose at a nearly identical 10.6 percent to lead the way, while corn (9.0 percent) and wheat (7.4 percent) surcharges also increased significantly. The United States entered a recessionary

March 20, 2009

Contents

Summary: What Happened?

Quarterly Bulk Grain and By-Products

Livestock

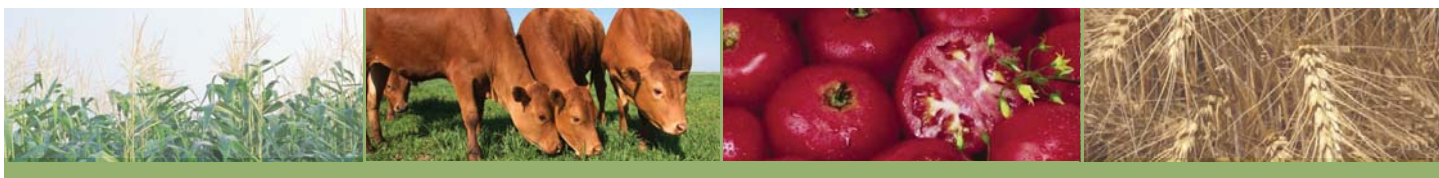
Fruit and Vegetables

Container Shipments

Contact Information

Subscription Information

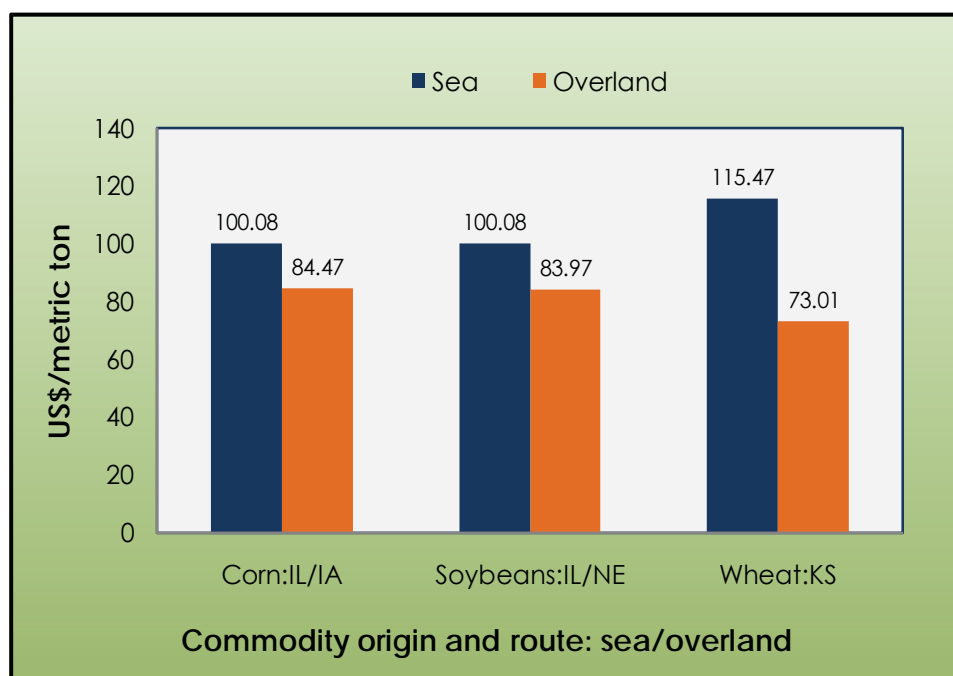
Data Sets



period in the second half of the year, which many believed continued to lower commodity prices and discouraged the movement of grain. In September, railroads also dealt with the impact of two major hurricanes in the New Orleans port area, Gustav and Ike. The two hurricanes hit grain export destinations in the Gulf of Mexico region and slowed traffic throughout the country as cars were staged to be delivered for export.

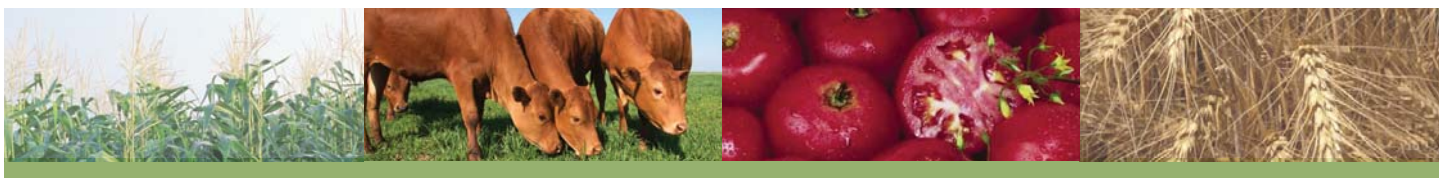
- **Ocean:** Ocean rates for shipping grain to Mexico fell significantly during the 4th quarter, 2007, compared to the previous quarter and to a year earlier. Ocean freight rates for shipping bulk commodities fell worldwide during the quarter due to reduced demand for transporting iron ore, coal and other raw materials caused by global economic slowdown. There were also reports that some shippers were having difficulty securing trade credits leading to reduced cargoes.

Figure 1. Average cost of shipping U.S. corn, wheat, and soybeans to Guadalajara, by route, 2008



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Fruit and Vegetables: Mexico is the largest source of U.S. fresh or frozen fruit and vegetables by value, followed by Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, and Guatemala (Economic Research Service (ERS)). Following the normal seasonal trend, volumes during the 4th quarter 2008, declined 67 percent compared to the previous quarter but showed a slight increase compared to the same quarter last year. Annual shipments from Mexico reached 11.28 billion pounds for 2008; a slight increase compared to 2007 volumes and was 17 percent higher than the 3- year average. Annual tomato shipments declined 7 percent from a year earlier. This decline could



be attributed to an outbreak of Salmonella Saintpaul in which tomatoes were implicated in early April 2008. Mexico is the largest supplier of fresh tomatoes to the United States accounting for 69 percent of fresh tomato imports. In 2008, seedless watermelon shipments increased 22 percent compared to the same period last year. Annual volumes of bell peppers and squash from Mexico were down due to last year's excess supplies and low prices (ERS).

- Truck rates in 2008 for crossings through Pharr, Texas and Nogales, Arizona, increased about 15 percent compared with 2007. The average annual truck rate for Pharr Texas crossings was \$2.03 per mile while rates for crossings Nogales Arizona averaged \$2.24 per mile for 2008. During the 4th quarter there was a slight surplus of trucks for crossings through Texas and Arizona (see table 14). Truck rates for border crossings through Nogales, Arizona, and Parr, Texas usually decline during the 4th quarter.

Agricultural Container Shipments: Container shipments to Mexico vary by season and port location. Grocery items were the number one export commodity for 2008, followed by dairy products and vegetables. In 2007, vegetables were the top exported product to Mexico, but in 2008, it dropped to number three with a market share of 9 percent. The number of Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) exported in 2008 was down by 1,347 TEUs compared to 2007. The Port of Manzanillo received the largest number of U.S. containers in both 2007 and 2008. The port is located on the Pacific Ocean with an expansive rail system to move the imported products inbound to the population centers. The Port of Morelos located near Cancun, a popular vacation spot in the Mayan Riviera, was the number two port receiving U.S. container exports in 2008. The Ports of Manzanillo and Morelos together accounted for almost 50 percent of the U.S. export container market followed by Progreso, Altamira, and Veracruz.

Livestock: Texas is the largest border crossing for U.S. livestock exports to Mexico, followed by New Mexico, and Arizona. Over 70 percent of livestock exports consist of sheep, hogs, and horses. On January 15, 2009, the USDA published the final regulation for the mandatory country of origin labeling (COOL) program required by the 2002 and 2008 farm bills, which was made effective on March 16, 2009, 60 days after the date of publication. Commodities covered under COOL must be labeled at retail to indicate their country of origin. For fish and shellfish, the method of production -- wild or farm-raised -- must be specified. Commodities are excluded from mandatory COOL if the commodity is an ingredient in a processed food item. Also exempt are food service establishments, such as restaurants, lunchrooms, cafeterias, food stands, bars, lounges and similar enterprises. This rule covers muscle cuts and ground beef, lamb, chicken, goat and pork; wild and farm-raised fish and shellfish; perishable agricultural commodities (specifically fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables); macadamia nuts; pecans; ginseng and peanuts. For more information visit the AMS website at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/COOL>.

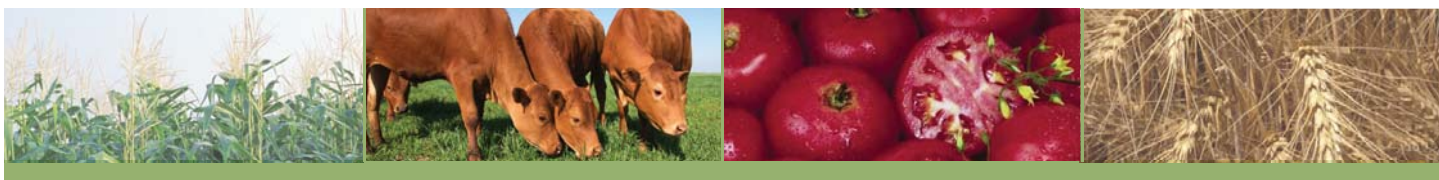


Table 1. Quarterly costs of transporting U.S. grain and soybeans to Guadalajara, Mexico

	-----2008-----									
	Water route					Land route				
	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg.	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg.
	US\$/metric ton					US\$/metric ton				
	Corn									
Origin	IL					IA				
Truck	12.11	12.38	11.86	9.66	11.5	4.97	4.65	5.88	3.43	4.7
Rail¹	36.15	39.54	39.54	36.95	38.0	76.74	79.05	82.69	80.45	79.7
Ocean²	26.13	33.54	28.38	11.58	24.9					
Barge	22.56	22.71	26.93	30.31	25.6					
Total transportation cost	96.95	108.17	106.71	88.50	100.1	81.71	83.70	88.57	83.88	84.5
Farm value	172.56	211.41	204.58	163.90	188.1	171.51	203.27	206.81	170.86	188.1
Landed cost	269.51	319.58	311.29	252.40	288.2	253.22	286.97	295.38	254.74	272.6
Transport % of landed cost	36.0	33.8	34	35	34.8	32.3	29.2	30	33	31.1
	Soybeans									
Origin	IL					NE				
Truck	12.11	12.38	11.86	9.66	11.5	4.97	4.65	5.88	3.43	4.7
Rail¹	36.15	39.54	39.54	36.95	38.0	75.82	78.67	82.66	79.80	79.2
Ocean²	26.13	33.54	28.38	11.58	24.9					
Barge	22.56	22.71	26.93	30.31	25.6					
Total transportation cost	96.95	108.17	106.71	88.50	100.1	80.79	83.32	88.54	83.23	84.0
Farm value	415.20	469.09	469.09	360.95	428.6	410.30	456.85	447.05	350.78	416.2
Landed cost	512.15	577.26	575.80	449.45	528.6	491.09	540.17	535.59	434.01	500.2
Transport % of landed cost	18.9	18.7	19	20	19.0	16.5	15.4	17	19	16.9
	Wheat									
Origin	KS					KS				
Truck	41.79	38.12	30.05	23.71	33.4	3.77	5.83	5.88	5.88	5.3
Rail¹	36.15	39.54	39.54	36.95	38.0	63.51	66.42	71.69	69.06	67.7
Ocean²	26.13	33.54	28.38	11.58	24.9					
Barge	15.41	15.58	19.70	25.72	19.1					
Total transportation cost	119.48	126.78	117.67	97.96	115.5	67.28	72.25	77.57	74.94	73.0
Farm value	340.74	314.28	280.72	202.95	284.7	340.74	314.28	280.72	202.95	284.7
Landed cost	460.22	441.06	398.39	300.91	400.1	408.02	386.53	358.29	277.89	357.7
Transport % of landed cost	26.0	28.7	30	33	29.2	16.5	18.7	22	27	20.9

¹Rail rates include U.S. and Mexico portions of the movement. Mexico rail rates are estimated based on actual quoted market rates. BNSF and Union Pacific quoted rail tariff rates are through rates for shuttle trains.

Rail rates include fuel surcharges

²Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting, Inc.



Quarterly Bulk Grain and Soybeans

Table 2. Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico (US\$/car)

			-----2008-----							
			Tariff rate/car ¹				Fuel surcharge per car ²			
Commodity	Origin state	Destination	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	5,694	5,694	5,767	5,803	852	1,024	1,356	1,104
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	4,918	5,059	5,305	5,314	692	856	1,172	932
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	5,498	5,607	5,784	5,784	719	894	1,233	976
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	2,998	2,825	2,956	2,956	263	301	424	331
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	6,678	6,701	6,668	6,745	833	1,035	1,425	1,129
	SD	Penjamo, GJ	6,615	6,582	6,515	6,600	1,115	1,340	1,774	1,445
	NE	Queretaro, QA	5,950	6,021	6,021	6,233	732	917	1,302	1,009
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	4,567	4,597	4,597	4,740	847	1,018	1,348	1,098
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	5,299	5,429	5,429	5,425	709	893	1,268	983
	SD	Torreon, CU	5,510	5,510	5,510	5,510	934	1,122	1,486	1,210
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	6,115	6,131	6,131	6,183	719	895	1,234	977
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	6,597	6,674	6,674	6,690	824	1,026	1,416	1,120
	IA	Penjamo (Celaya), GJ	6,471	6,546	6,546	6,483	1,108	1,331	1,763	1,436
	KS	Torreon, CU	5,282	5,282	5,282	5,275	549	687	954	751
Sorghum	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	4,144	4,224	4,224	4,309	846	1,017	1,347	1,097
	TX	Guadalajara, JA	4,720	4,570	4,720	4,800	726	872	1,155	940
	NE	Penjamo, GJ	6,208	6,248	6,248	6,420	757	945	1,308	1,033
	KS	Queretaro, QA	5,261	5,341	5,341	5,568	538	677	946	742
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	4,224	4,279	4,279	4,477	549	685	946	748
	NE	Torreon, CU	5,210	5,210	5,210	5,255	624	778	1,077	850

¹Rates are based upon published tariff rates for high-capacity shuttle trains. Shuttle trains are available for qualified shipments of 75-110 cars that meet railroad efficiency requirements.

²Approximate load per car = 97.87 mt: corn & sorghum 56 lbs/bu, wheat & soybeans 60 lbs/bu

Sources: www.bnsf.com; www.uprr.com; www.kcsouthern.com



Table 3. Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico, 2008

			Tariff ¹ plus fuel surcharge per:							
			US\$/metric ton				US\$/bushel ²			
Commodity	Origin state	Destination	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	66.89	68.64	72.78	70.57	1.82	1.87	1.98	1.92
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	57.32	60.43	66.18	63.81	1.56	1.64	1.80	1.74
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	63.51	66.42	71.69	69.06	1.73	1.81	1.95	1.88
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	33.31	31.94	34.54	33.58	0.91	0.87	0.94	0.91
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	76.74	79.05	82.69	80.45	1.95	2.01	2.10	2.04
	SD	Penjamo, GJ	78.98	80.94	84.70	82.20	2.00	2.05	2.15	2.09
	NE	Queretaro, QA	68.28	70.88	74.82	74.00	1.73	1.80	1.90	1.88
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	55.32	57.37	60.75	59.65	1.40	1.46	1.54	1.51
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	61.39	64.59	68.43	65.47	1.56	1.64	1.74	1.66
	SD	Torreon, CU	65.84	67.76	71.48	68.66	1.67	1.72	1.81	1.74
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	6,115	6,131	6,131	73.15	719	895	1,234	1.99
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	6,597	6,674	6,674	79.80	824	1,026	1,416	2.17
	IA	Penjamo (Celaya), GJ	6,471	6,546	6,546	80.92	1,108	1,331	1,763	2.20
	KS	Torreon, CU	5,282	5,282	5,282	61.57	549	687	954	1.67
Sorghum	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	50.99	53.55	56.92	55.23	1.29	1.36	1.44	1.40
	TX	Guadalajara, JA	55.64	55.60	60.02	58.65	1.41	1.41	1.52	1.49
	NE	Penjamo, GJ	71.17	73.50	77.20	76.15	1.81	1.87	1.96	1.93
	KS	Queretaro, QA	59.25	61.49	64.24	64.48	1.50	1.56	1.63	1.64
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	48.77	50.72	53.39	53.39	1.24	1.29	1.35	1.35
	NE	Torreon, CU	59.60	61.18	64.23	62.38	1.51	1.55	1.63	1.58

¹Rates are based upon published tariff rates for high-capacity shuttle trains. Shuttle trains are available for qualified shipments of 75-110 cars that meet railroad efficiency requirements.

²Approximate load per car = 97.87 mt: corn & sorghum 56 lbs/bu, wheat & soybeans 60 lbs/bu

Sources: www.bnsf.com, www.uprr.com, www.kcsouthern.com



Table 4. Quarterly ocean freight rate for bulk shipments from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico (US\$/metric ton)					
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Average
25,000	30.19	37.00	31.62	14.08	28.22
35-40,000	26.13	33.54	28.38	11.58	24.91

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

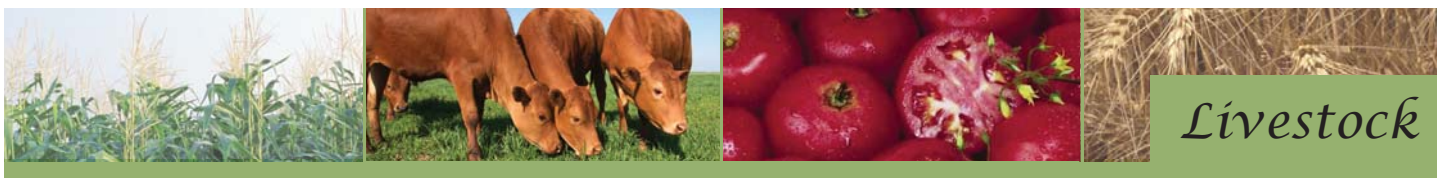


Table 5. U.S. livestock exports to Mexico by border crossings*,
January - December, 2008 (head)

Category					
Border Crossing	TX	NM	AZ	CA	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	189	496	124	0	809
Breeding females	535	393	48	0	976
Total beef	724	889	172	0	1785
Hogs					
Slaughter	72,985	0	0	0	72,985
Breeding males	794	0	0	0	794
Breeding females	4,580	0	2,523	0	7,103
Total hogs	78,359	0	2,523	0	80,882
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0	0	0
Slaughter ewes	105,204	0	0	0	105,204
Breeding males	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	0	0	0
Total sheep	105,204	0	0	0	105,204
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	46	0	0	0	46
Breeding females	17,534	12,158	0	0	29,692
Total dairy	17,580	12,158	0	0	29,738
Goats					
Angora	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish	14,145	0	0	0	14,145
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total goats	14,145	0	0	0	14,145
Horses					
Slaughter	31,083	9,705	0	0	40,788
Breeding males	1,488	460	170	0	2,118
Breeding females	2,532	669	216	0	3,417
Geldings	569	1,260	33	0	1,862
Burro/mule/pony	115	0	2	0	117
Total horses	35,787	12,094	421	0	48,302
Exotics**	1,158	0	0	0	1,158
Grand total	265,007	32,391	3,433	0	300,831

*Weekly AMS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

**Refer to animals that are not included in other categories such as zebras, deer, elephants, and yaks.

Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Livestock and Seed Programs

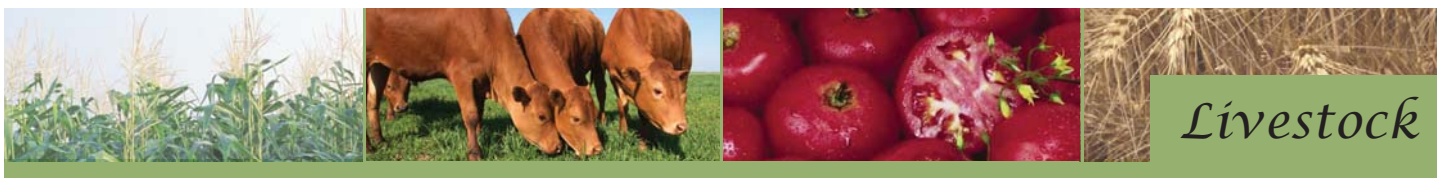


Table 6. Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through Texas border crossing* (head)

Category	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	31	64	94	189
Breeding females	0	40	209	286	535
Total beef	0	71	273	380	724
Hogs					
Slaughter	61,355	11,247	383	0	72,985
Breeding males	99	253	275	167	794
Breeding females	596	1,201	2,191	592	4,580
Total hogs	62,050	12,701	2,849	759	78,359
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0	0	0
Slaughter ewes	27,240	33,746	23,658	20,560	105,204
Breeding males	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	0	0	0
Total sheep	27,240	33,746	23,658	20,560	105,204
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	19	8	4	15	46
Breeding females	7,167	7,373	824	2,170	17,534
Total dairy	7,186	7,381	828	2,185	17,580
Goats					
Angora	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish	775	6,820	2,565	3,985	14,145
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total goats	775	6,820	2,565	3,985	14,145
Horses					
Slaughter	9,801	11,559	9,723	10,092	41,175
Breeding males	431	426	631	721	2,209
Breeding females	829	607	1,096	1,057	3,589
Geldings	194	122	253	160	729
Burro/mule/pony	57	52	6	20	135
Total horses	11,312	12,766	11,709	12,050	47,837
Exotics**	504	249	182	223	1,158
Grand total	109,067	73,734	42,064	40,142	265,007

*Weekly AMS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

**Refer to animals that are not included in other categories such as zebras, deer, elephants, and yaks.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Livestock and Seed Programs

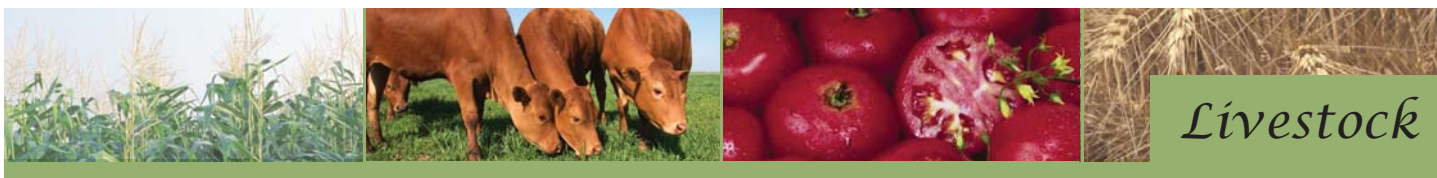


Table 7. Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through New Mexico border crossing* (head)

Category	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	313	97	86	496
Breeding females	0	0	80	313	393
Total beef	0	313	177	399	889
Hogs					
Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	0	0	0
Total hogs	0	0	0	0	0
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0	0	0
Slaughter ewes	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	0	0	0
Total sheep	0	0	0	0	0
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	4,541	5,418	865	1,334	12,158
Total dairy	4,541	5,418	865	1,334	12,158
Goats					
Angora	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total goats	0	0	0	0	0
Horses					
Slaughter	2,194	2,759	4,752	6,137	15,842
Breeding males	0	155	305	459	919
Breeding females	0	263	406	442	1,111
Geldings	670	384	206	212	1,472
Burro/mule/pony	0	0	0	0	0
Total horses	2,864	3,561	5,669	7,250	19,344
Exotics**	0	0	0	0	0
Grand total	7,405	9,292	6,711	8,983	32,391

*Weekly AMS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

**Refer to animals that are not included in other categories such as zebras, deer, elephants, and yaks.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Livestock and Seed Programs

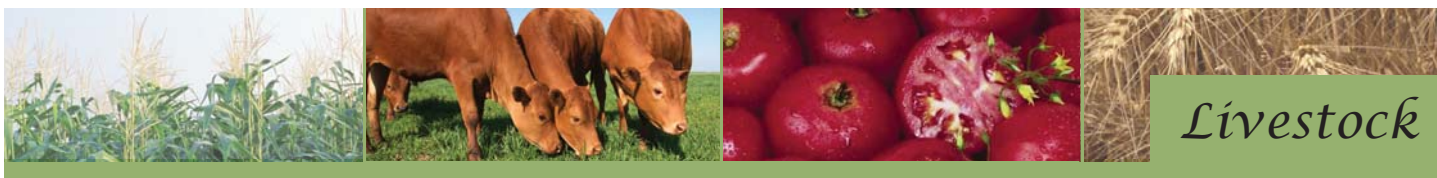


Table 8. Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through Arizona border crossing* (head)

Category	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	0	40	84	124
Breeding females	0	0	4	44	48
Total beef	0	0	44	128	172
Hogs					
Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	516	713	203	1,091	2,523
Total hogs	516	713	203	1,091	2,523
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0	0	0
Slaughter ewes	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	0	0	0
Total sheep	0	0	0	0	0
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	0	0	0
Total dairy	0	0	0	0	0
Goats					
Angora	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total goats	0	0	0	0	0
Horses					
Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	55	42	73	178	348
Breeding females	66	73	77	116	332
Geldings	4	12	17	23	56
Burro/mule/pony	0	0	2	0	2
Total horses	125	127	169	317	738
Exotics**	0	0	0	0	0
Grand total	641	840	416	1,536	3,433

*Weekly AMS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

**Refer to animals that are not included in other categories such as zebras, deer, elephants, and yaks.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Livestock and Seed Programs

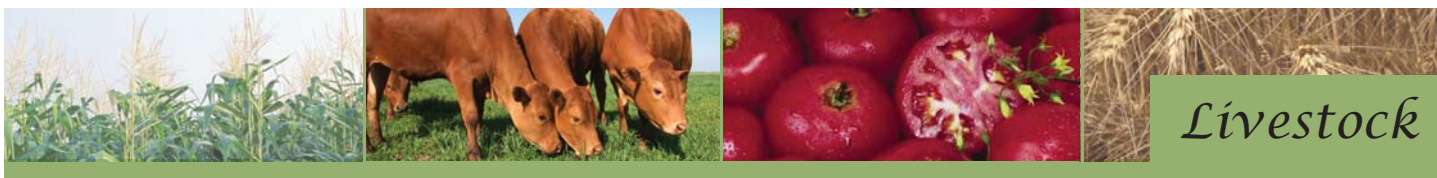


Table 9. Quarterly U.S. cattle exports to Mexico and Canada (head)

Country	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Total
Canada	8,436	12,272	9,244	6,966	36,918
Mexico	0	193	27	507	727
Other countries	285	8	978	10,762	12,033
Total	8,721	12,473	10,249	18,235	49,678
Mexico % share	0.0	1.5	0.3	2.8	1.5
Canada % share	96.7	98.4	90.2	38.2	74.3
Country	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Total
Canada	9,160	14,811	9,828	10,299	44,098
Mexico	0	9	453	13,317	13,779
Other countries	4,563	292	160	3,491	8,506
Total	13,723	15,112	10,441	27,107	66,383
Mexico % share	41.0	53.8	34.5	44.5	43.7
Canada % share	0.0	0.1	4.3	49.1	20.8
Country	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Canada	10,279	13,322	8,203	6,228	38,032
Mexico	27,623	16,689	2,047	2,844	49,203
Other countries	417	564	4,931	14,345	20,257
Total	38,319	30,575	15,181	23,417	107,492
Mexico % share	72.1	54.6	13.5	12.1	45.8
Canada % share	26.8	43.6	54.0	26.6	35.4

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

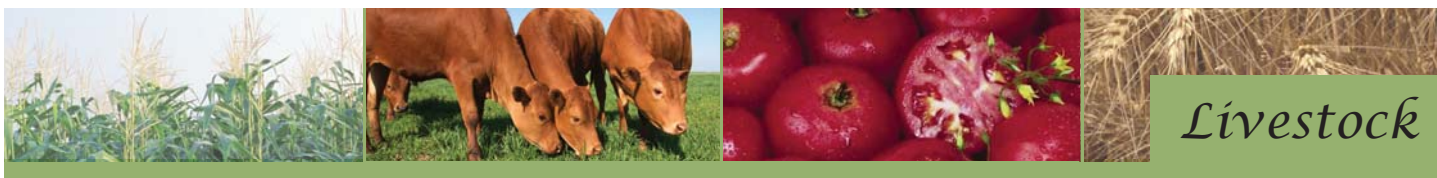


Table 10. Quarterly U.S. cattle imports from Mexico and Canada (head)

Country	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Total
Mexico	366,297	284,421	215,413	390,842	1,256,973
Canada	342,383	185,755	202,704	301,028	1,031,870
Other countries	0	0	0	0	0
Total	708,680	470,176	418,117	691,870	2,288,843
Mexico % share	51.7	60.5	51.5	56.5	54.9
Canada % share	48.3	39.5	48.5	43.5	45.1
Country	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Total
Mexico	258,079	278,799	159,641	393,575	1,090,094
Canada	371,078	239,374	302,718	491,701	1,404,871
Other countries	0	0	0	0	0
Total	629,157	518,173	462,359	885,276	2,494,965
Mexico % share	41.0	53.8	34.5	44.5	43.7
Canada % share	59.0	46.2	65.5	55.5	56.3
Country	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Mexico	171,725	184,274	59,122	287,540	702,661
Canada	510,449	378,292	346,048	346,514	1,581,303
Other countries	0	0	29	0	29
Total	682,174	562,566	405,199	634,054	2,283,993
Mexico % share	25.2	32.8	14.6	45.3	30.8
Canada % share	74.8	67.2	85.4	54.7	69.2

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

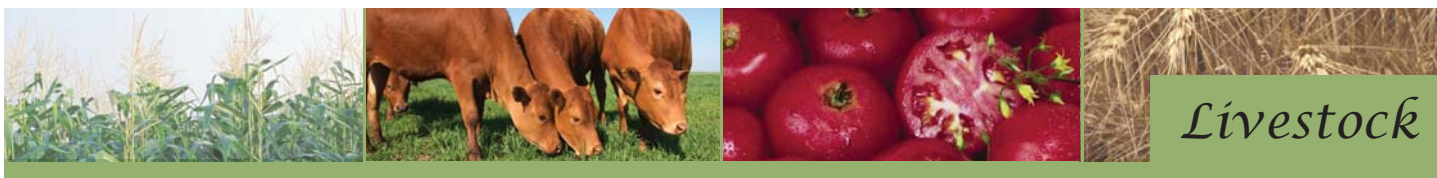


Table 11. Quarterly U.S. hog exports to Mexico and Canada (head)

Country	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Total
Mexico	75,082	23,208	32,046	21,022	151,358
Canada	1,728	807	964	569	4,068
Other countries	1,421	1,550	3,653	2,571	9,195
Total	78,231	25,565	36,663	24,162	164,621
Mexico % share	96.0	90.8	87.4	87.0	91.9
Canada % share	2.2	3.2	2.6	2.4	2.5
Country	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Total
Mexico	32,895	11,106	38,381	38,654	121,036
Canada	1,677	977	1,442	240	4,336
Other countries	2,382	3,296	4,491	1,275	11,444
Total	36,954	15,379	44,314	40,169	136,816
Mexico % share	89.0	72.2	86.6	96.2	88.5
Canada % share	4.5	6.4	3.3	0.6	3.2
Country	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Mexico	57,411	16,086	741	1,171	75,409
Canada	771	2,696	3,380	707	7,554
Other countries	1,807	3,154	6,589	2,940	14,490
Total	59,989	21,936	10,710	4,818	97,453
Mexico % share	95.7	73.3	6.9	24.3	77.4
Canada % share	1.3	12.3	31.6	14.7	7.8

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

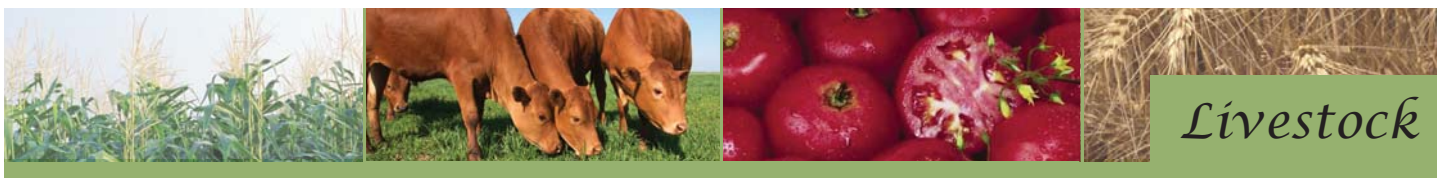
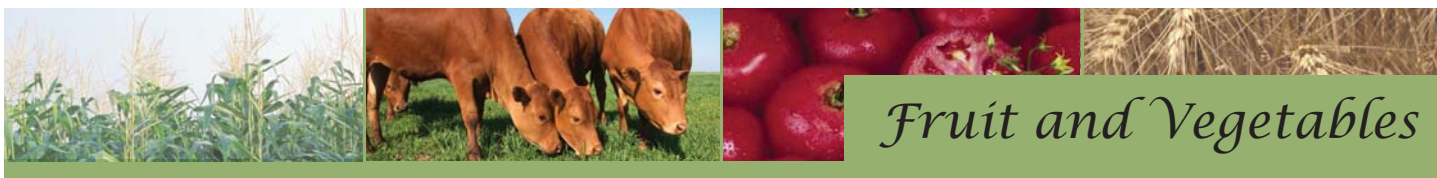


Table 12. Quarterly U.S. hog imports (head)

Country	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Total
Canada	2,132,639	2,087,934	2,204,344	2,338,461	8,763,378
Other countries	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2,132,639	2,087,934	2,204,344	2,338,461	8,763,378
Canada % share	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Country	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Total
Canada	2,301,898	2,369,502	2,463,940	2,868,977	10,004,317
Other countries	0	25	0	0	25
Total	2,301,898	2,369,527	2,463,940	2,868,977	10,004,342
Canada % share	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Country	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Canada	2,914,533	2,149,388	2,201,248	2,082,755	9,347,924
Other countries	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2,914,533	2,149,388	2,201,248	2,082,755	9,347,924
Canada % share	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census



**Table 13. Fruit and vegetable truck rates
for selected U.S.-Mexico border crossing* (US\$/mile)**

Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2005	2nd qtr 2005	3rd qtr 2005	4th qtr 2005	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.58	1.83	2.10	1.92	1.86
Pharr, Texas	1.51	1.84	1.70	1.87	1.73
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.70	1.77	2.22	1.78	1.87
Pharr, Texas	1.75	1.80	1.64	1.63	1.71
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.90	1.89	2.05	2.00	1.96
Pharr, Texas	1.65	1.83	1.86	1.74	1.77
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.96	2.24	2.80	1.97	2.24
Pharr, Texas	1.93	2.19	2.12	1.87	2.03

*Voluntarily reported to AMS, Market News

Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Fruit and Vegetable Programs

**Table 14. Quarterly U.S.-Mexico border crossing
fresh fruit and vegetables truck availability, 4th quarter, 2008**

Legend:		Truck availability												
1 = Surplus	2 = Slight Surplus													
3 = Adequate	4 = Slight Shortage													
5 = Shortage														
Mexico border crossings/month		Oct				Nov			Dec				Jan	
Week		10/7	10/14	10/21	10/28	11/4	11/18	11/25	12/2	12/9	12/17	12/23	12/30	1/6
Through Pharr, TX	Citrus	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	3	2
	Mixed Fruits			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	3	2
Through Nogales, AZ	Mixed Vegetables				3	3	3	3	3	1	4	3	5	4
	Melons				3	3	3	3	3	1	4	3		
	Tomatoes												5	4

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Fruit and Vegetable Programs

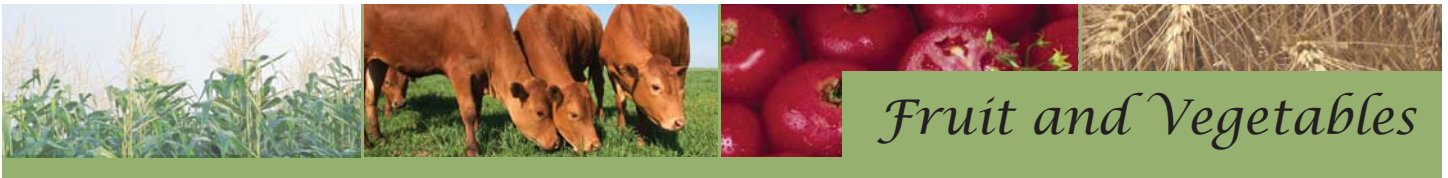


Table 15. Top five commodities shipped to the U.S. from Mexico (10,000 lbs.)

Commodity	1st qtr 2005	2nd qtr 2005	3rd qtr 2005	4th qtr 2005	Total 2005
Tomatoes, Plum	67,805	38,786	23,654	42,107	172,352
Peppers	34,747	19,029	7,081	22,048	82,905
Watermelon, Seedless	22,105	42,067	399	13,085	77,656
Limes	14,267	18,443	22,133	17,954	72,797
Cucumbers	23,075	16,103	5,990	20,954	66,122
Other	133,687	146,750	68,471	97,493	446,401
Subtotal border crossing	161,999	134,428	59,257	116,148	471,832
Total quarterly	295,686	281,178	127,728	213,641	918,233
Commodity	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Total 2006
Tomatoes, Plum	82,610	39,406	16,120	25,537	163,673
Peppers	45,651	22,486	10,898	17,911	96,946
Watermelon, Seedless	25,772	54,987	1,107	17,570	99,436
Limes	13,246	19,980	23,772	19,637	76,635
Cucumbers	25,162	15,230	5,062	24,882	70,336
Other	139,947	143,295	67,001	96,306	446,549
Subtotal border crossing	192,441	152,089	56,959	105,537	507,026
Total quarterly	332,388	295,384	123,960	201,843	953,575
Commodity	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Total 2007
Tomatoes, Plum	81,569	49,510	16,541	26,462	174,082
Peppers	39,988	21,882	16,609	30,259	108,738
Watermelon, Seedless	19,736	60,559	306	18,214	98,815
Limes	15,931	20,420	21,860	19,090	77,301
Cucumbers	31,681	17,622	4,709	22,438	76,450
Other	151,494	159,783	77,029	108,830	497,136
Subtotal border crossing	188,905	169,993	60,025	116,463	535,386
Total quarterly	340,399	329,776	137,054	225,293	1,032,522
Commodity	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total 2008
Tomatoes, Plum	66,049	53,659	15,156	26,271	161,135
Peppers	43,219	38,961	17,356	27,565	127,101
Watermelon, Seedless	26,601	73,261	2,202	18,531	120,595
Limes	15,557	26,505	20,834	18,705	81,601
Cucumbers	31,017	29,092	5,415	21,587	87,111
Other	156,348	207,080	74,194	113,146	550,768
Subtotal border crossing	182,443	221,478	60,963	112,659	577,543
Total quarterly	338,791	428,558	135,157	225,805	1,128,311

Source: Data is obtained from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) through USDA, AMS, Market News

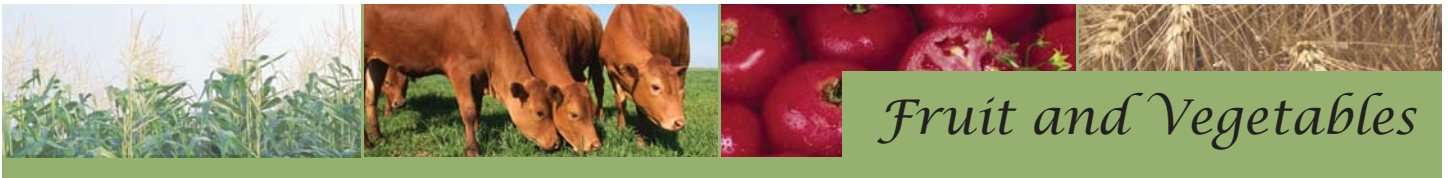
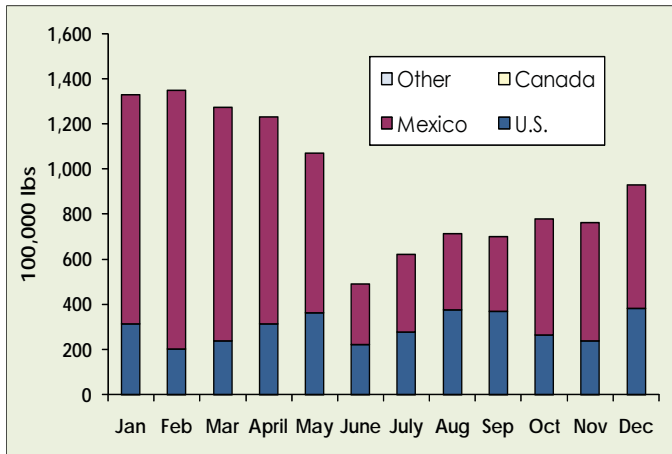
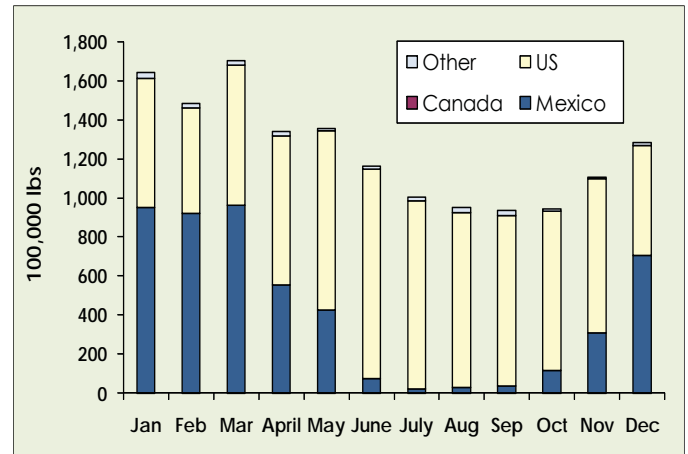


Figure 2. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported plum tomatoes, 2008



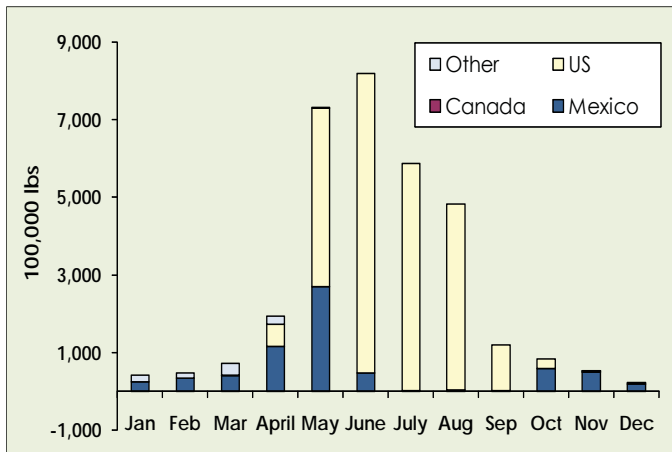
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 3. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported peppers, 2008



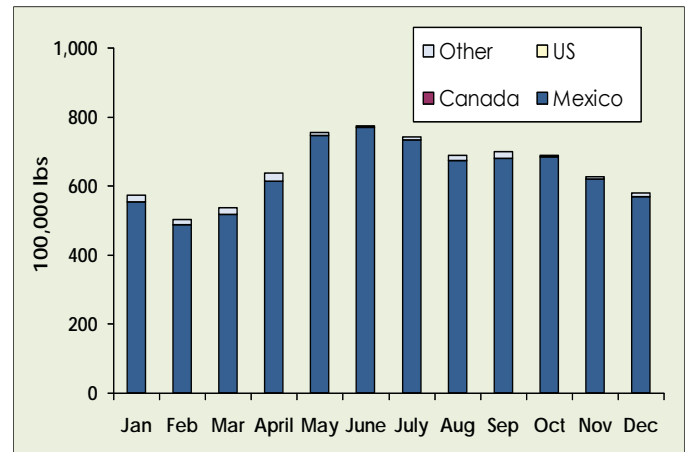
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 4. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported seedless watermelons, 2008



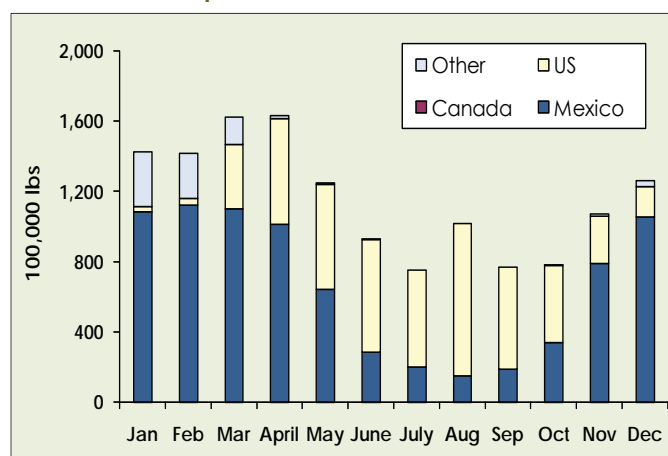
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 5. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported limes, 2008



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 6. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported cucumbers, 2008



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

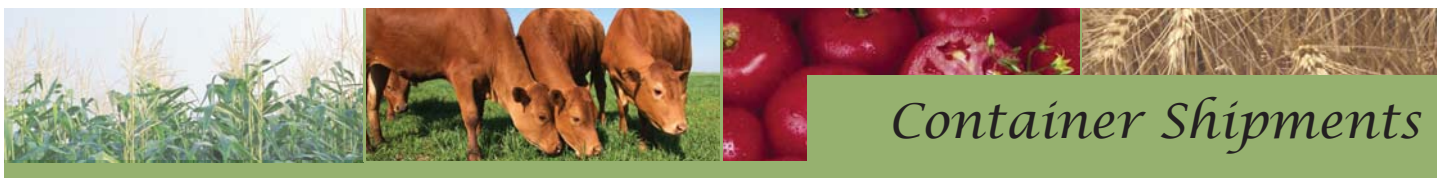


Table 16. Top ten U.S. container agricultural exports to Mexico, 2008 (1st & 2nd quarters)

1st qtr	Commodity	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
	Vegetables	188	18	1
	Grocery items	132	13	2
	Dairy products	123	12	3
	Herbs and spices	90	9	4
	Tobacco, leaf, processed	52	5	5
	Animal feed	51	5	6
	Beverage	44	4	7
	Fruit	35	3	8
	Tuna	34	3	9
	Frozen fish	34	3	10
Subtotal		782	77	
Other		235	23	
Total Exports		1018	100	
2nd qtr	Commodity	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
	Dairy products	151	17	1
	Tobacco, leaf, processed	122	14	2
	Grocery items	83	9	3
	Herbs and spices	77	9	4
	Meat	61	7	5
	Vegetables	42	5	6
	Cocoa butter	42	5	7
	Beverage	42	5	8
	Frozen fish	38	4	9
	Canned fruit	21	2	10
Subtotal		680	76	
Other		210	24	
Total Exports		890	100	

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

**Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2008

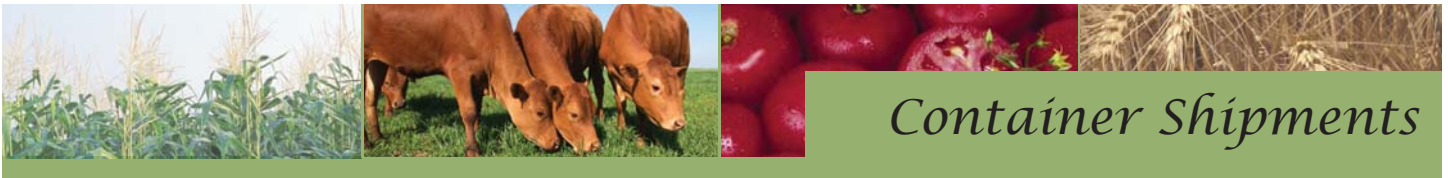


Table 16. Top ten U.S. container agricultural exports to Mexico, 2008 (3rd & 4th quarters)

3rd qtr	Commodity	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
	Cocoa butter	194	21	1
	Grocery items	119	13	2
	Herbs and spices	84	9	3
	Vegetables	55	6	4
	Dairy products	52	6	5
	Tomatoes prepared	42	4	6
	Tobacco, leaf, processed	38	4	7
	Candy and confections	38	4	8
	Meat	36	4	9
	Frozen fish	31	3	10
Subtotal		690	74	
Other		248	26	
Total Exports		938	100	
4th qtr	Commodity	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
	Beer and ale	120	10	1
	Tomatoes prepared	119	10	2
	Tobacco, leaf, processed	110	10	3
	Grocery items	92	8	4
	Vegetables	66	6	5
	Fruit	60	5	6
	Diary products	58	5	7
	Frozen fish	53	5	8
	Honey	48	4	9
	Herbs and spices	45	4	10
Subtotal		771	67	
Other		381	33	
Total Exports		1152	100	

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

**Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2008

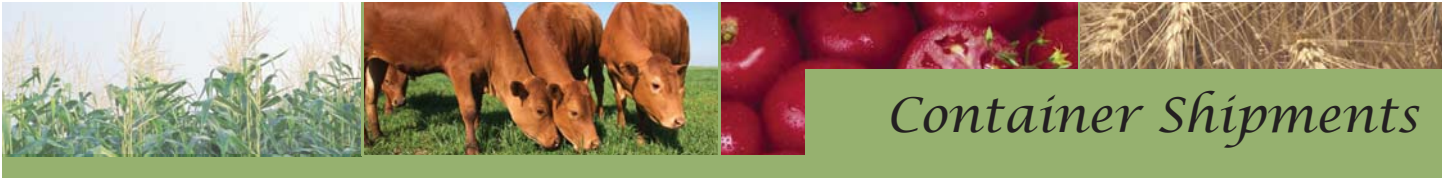


Table 17. Top eight U.S. bulk agricultural exports to Mexico*, 2008

Commodity	Quantity (mt)	Percentage share	Rank
Bulk grain	4,065,420	61	1
Soybeans	1,047,608	16	2
Vegetables	696,206	10	3
Rice, crackers, and pasta	390,329	6	4
Grain products, flour and cereal	209,590	3	5
Tallow, grease	137,113	2	6
Soybean oil	49,722	1	7
Animal feed	44,976	1	8
Subtotal	6,640,964	99	
Other	34,470	1	
Total Exports	6,675,434	100	

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data
Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2008

Table 18. Top ten U.S. agricultural container exports to Mexico*, 2008

Commodity	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
Grocery items	425	11	1
Dairy products	384	10	2
Vegetables	351	9	3
Herbs and spices	326	8	4
Tobacco	323	8	5
Cocoa butter	305	8	6
Tomatoes, prepared	186	5	7
Frozen fish	156	4	8
Meat	137	3	9
Fruit	136	3	10
Subtotal	2,729	69	
Other	1,231	31	
Total Exports	3,979	100	

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

**Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2008

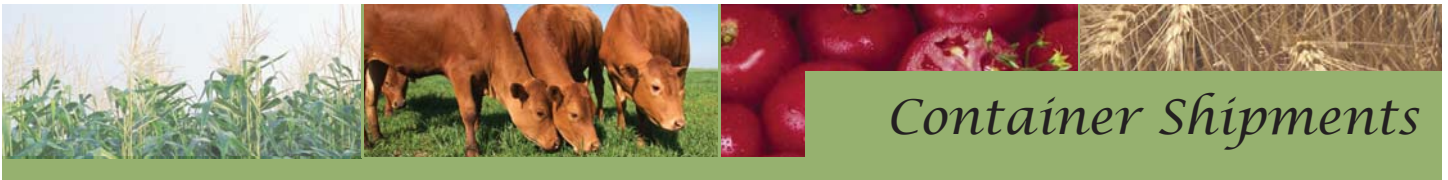


Table 19. Top eight Mexican bulk agricultural exports to the U.S. *, 2008

Commodity	Quantity (mt)	Percentage share	Rank
Sugars	653,565	39	1
Beer and ale	562,091	34	2
Molasses and treacle	173,268	10	3
Chewing gum	98,117	6	4
Coffee	41,932	3	5
Vegetables	24,347	1	6
Wine	15,797	1	7
Liquor, brandy and spirits	14,018	1	8
Subtotal	1,583,135	95	
Other	79,548	5	
Total Exports	1,662,683	100	

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data
Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2008

Table 20. Top ten Mexican agricultural container exports to the U.S. *, 2008

Commodity	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
Beer and ale	7,221	30	1
Coffee	2,458	10	2
Vegetables	2,445	10	3
Liquor, brandy and spirits	1,447	6	4
Sugars	1,327	6	5
Wine	1,320	5	6
Grain products, flour, and cereal	1,005	4	7
Fruit	725	3	8
Meat	594	2	9
Dairy products	552	2	10
Subtotal	19,094	79	
Other	4,927	21	
Total Exports	24,021	100	

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

**Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2008

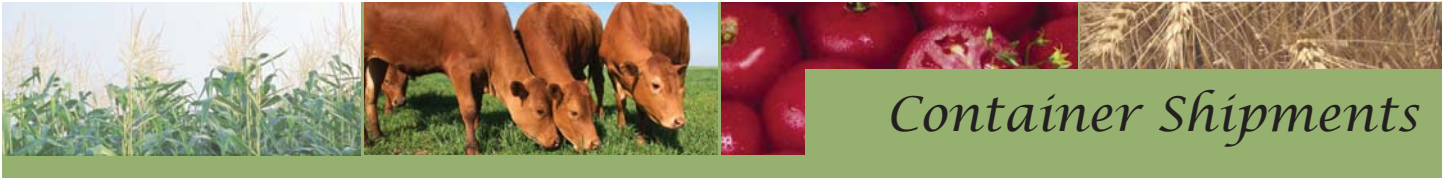


Table 21. U.S. agricultural container shipments to Mexico by port*, 2008

U.S. region**	Mexican port	Number of TEUs***
U.S. Gulf	Manzanillo	66
Pacific Northwest		303
West Coast		1,033
East Coast		74
TOTAL		1,476
U.S. Gulf	Puerto Morelos	473
Pacific Northwest		-
West Coast		-
East Coast		-
TOTAL		473
U.S. Gulf	Progreso	410
Pacific Northwest		-
West Coast		-
East Coast		2
TOTAL		412
U.S. Gulf	Altamira	5
Pacific Northwest		-
West Coast		-
East Coast		346
TOTAL		351
U.S. Gulf	Veracruz	58
Pacific Northwest		-
West Coast		-
East Coast		167
TOTAL		224

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

**U.S. Gulf includes Houston, New Orleans, Port Everglades

Pacific Northwest includes Seattle, Portland

West Coast includes Oakland, Long Beach, Los Angeles

East Coast includes New York, Baltimore, Norfolk, Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, West Palm Beach, Miami

*** Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2008

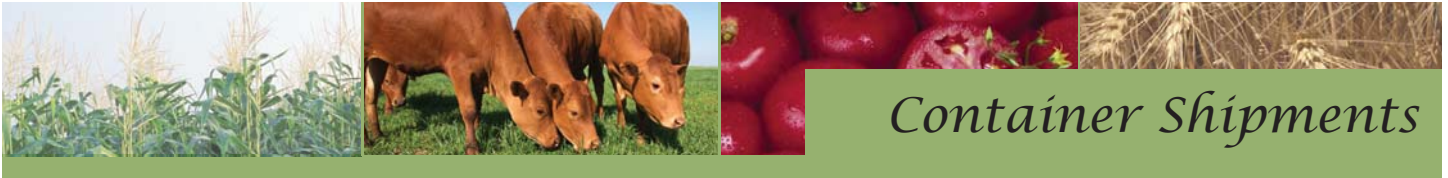


Table 22. U.S. agricultural container exports to Mexico by port*, 2008

Mexican port	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
Manzanillo	1,476	37	1
Puerto Morelos	473	12	2
Progreso	412	10	3
Altamira	351	9	4
Veracruz	224	6	5
Subtotal	2,936	74	
Other	1,043	26	
Total Exports	3,979	100	

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

** Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

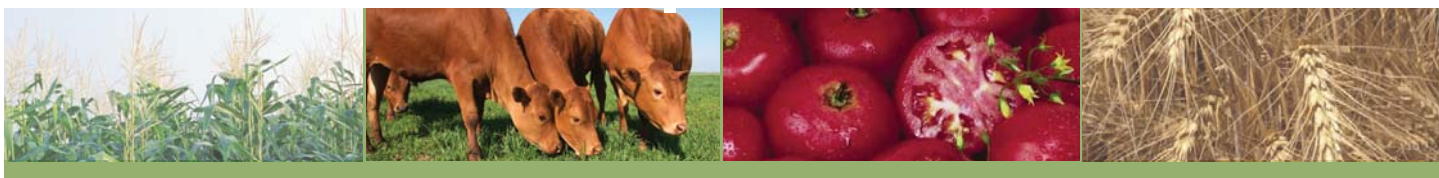
Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2008

Table 23. U.S. bulk agricultural exports to Mexico by receiving port*, 2008

Mexican port	Quantity (mt)	Percentage share	Rank
Veracruz	4,248,204	63	1
Progreso	1,320,009	20	2
Coatzacoalcos	562,171	8	3
Tuxpan	488,861	7	4
Subtotal	6,619,245	99	
Other	100,033	1	
Total Exports 2008	6,719,277	100	

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2008



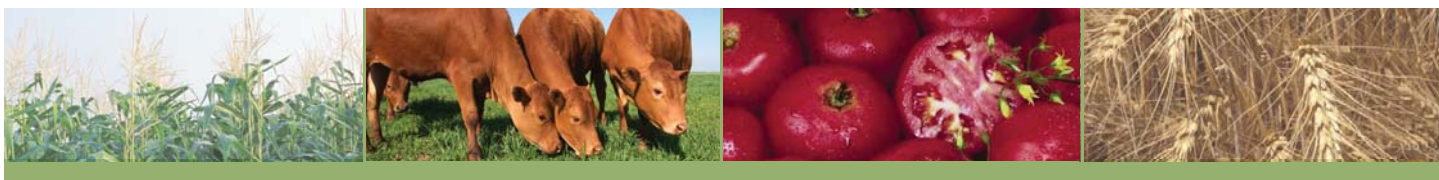
Contact Information:

Delmy L. Salin Senior Economist, Project Manager	delmy.salin@usda.gov	(202) 690-4440
Daniel T. Nibarger Economist, Rail Analyst	daniel.nibarger@usda.gov	(202) 690-0152
Surajudeen Olowalayemo Agricultural Economist, Ocean Bulk Shipments Analyst	surajudeen.olowalayemo@usda.gov	(202) 690-1328
Camia Lane Agricultural Marketing Specialist, Fruit and Vegetable Analyst	camia.lane@usda.gov	(202) 720-9801
Ron Hagen Economist, Container Shipments Analyst	ron.hagen@usda.gov	(202) 690-1320
Pierre N. Bahizi Economist, Livestock Analyst	pierre.bahizi@usda.gov	(202) 720-1378
Jessica E. Ladd Graphic Analyst	jessica.ladd@usda.gov	(202) 720-6494

Subscription Information: Send e-mail address to GTRContactUs@usda.gov for an electronic copy.

Related Websites:

- ◆ [U.S. Grain and Soybean Exports to Mexico — A Modal Share Transportation Analysis \(PDF\)](#)
- ◆ [Grain Transportation Report](#)
- ◆ [Agricultural Refrigerated Truck Quarterly](#)
- ◆ [Ocean Rate Bulletin](#)



Data Sets:

- ◆ Figure 1: Average cost of shipping U.S. corn, wheat, and soybeans to Guadalajara, by route, 2008
- ◆ Figure 2: Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported plum tomatoes, 2008
- ◆ Figure 3: Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported peppers, 2008
- ◆ Figure 4: Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported seedless watermelons, 2008
- ◆ Figure 5: Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported limes, 2008
- ◆ Figure 6: Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported cucumbers, 2008

- ◆ Table 1: Quarterly costs of transporting U.S. grain and soybeans to Guadalajara, Mexico
- ◆ Table 2: Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico (US\$/car)
- ◆ Table 3: Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico, 2008
- ◆ Table 4: Quarterly ocean freight rate for bulk shipments from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico (US\$/metric ton)
- ◆ Table 5: Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico by border crossings, January - December, 2008 (head)
- ◆ Table 6: Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through Texas border crossing (head)
- ◆ Table 7: Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through New Mexico border crossing (head)
- ◆ Table 8: Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through Arizona border crossing (head)
- ◆ Table 9: Quarterly U.S. cattle exports to Mexico and Canada (head)
- ◆ Table 10: Quarterly U.S. cattle imports from Mexico and Canada (head)
- ◆ Table 11: Quarterly U.S. hog exports to Mexico and Canada (head)
- ◆ Table 12: Quarterly U.S. hog imports (head)
- ◆ Table 13: Fruit and vegetable truck rates for selected U.S.-Mexico border crossing (US\$/mile)
- ◆ Table 14: Quarterly U.S.-Mexico border crossing fresh fruit and vegetables truck availability, 4th quarter, 2008
- ◆ Table 15: Top five commodities shipped to the U.S. from Mexico (10,000 lbs.)
- ◆ Table 16: Top ten U.S. container agricultural exports to Mexico, 2008
- ◆ Table 17: Top eight U.S. bulk agricultural exports to Mexico, 2008
- ◆ Table 18: Top ten U.S. agricultural container exports to Mexico, 2008
- ◆ Table 19: Top eight Mexican bulk agricultural exports to the U.S., 2008
- ◆ Table 20: Top ten Mexican agricultural container exports to the U.S., 2008
- ◆ Table 21: U.S. agricultural container shipments to Mexico by port, 2008
- ◆ Table 22: U.S. agricultural container exports to Mexico by port, 2008
- ◆ Table 23: U.S. bulk agricultural exports to Mexico by receiving port, 2008

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.